



STATE OF TENNESSEE
TENNESSEE COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH

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JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMITTEE
Andrew Jackson 9th Floor Conference Room
Thursday, December 11, 2014
2:45 PM – 4:15 PM

MINUTES

Members Present

Phil Acord, Chair
Brenda Davis
Genesis Hardin
Jennie Harlan
Bill Haynes
Amy Jones
Rob Mortensen
Christy Sigler
Glenda Terry
Audrey Taylor Gonzalez

Members Absent

Ethan Flynn

Staff Present

Fay Delk
Craig Hargrow
Melissa McGee
Steve Petty
Vicki Taylor
Nancy Townsend
Zanira Whitfield

I. Welcome and Introductions – Phil Acord, Chair

Acord called the meeting to order at 2:45 PM, welcomed all present and thanked them for their attendance. He asked attendees to introduce themselves.

II. Approval of Minutes (ACTION)

IT WAS MOVED (HARLAN) AND SECONDED (SIGLER) TO APPROVE THE AUGUST 2014 JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMITTEE MINUTES. UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

III. Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders (DSO) Violations – Zanira Whitfield

Referring to the handout that was distributed, Whitfield discussed the DSO Violations Report. The total number of DSO violations from January 1, 2014, to October 31, 2014,

was 46 with zero jail removal violations and zero jail separation violations. Acord inquired about two counties and Whitfield explained she continues to provide technical assistance and the juvenile court judges are aware of the issues.

IV. DMC Task Force Update – Craig Hargrow

Judge Stokes, Gerald Papica and Hargrow continue the “Justice for All” presentation throughout the state. Nashville and Johnson City were the latest presentations and both were well attended. Chattanooga presentation is scheduled for January 2015.

Hargrow mentioned the 2012 DMC study is a valuable resource to consider as the task forces go forward with moving from identification and assessment to intervention, evaluation and monitoring and the DMC Study provides a rich history regarding actions taken in Tennessee to address DMC.

Hargrow mentioned the statewide DMC Task Force conference call was on October 22, 2014 and the Davidson County DMC Task Force met on September 15, October 20 and November 17, 2014. Hargrow continues to provide support and technical assistance. Acord asked if other counties have expressed an interest in establishing a task force and Hargrow stated Madison County expressed an interest at June 2014 Summit in Memphis. TCCY is always looking to expand task forces, but wants to be sure current task forces are operating correctly first.

V. OJJDP Compliance Notification – Craig Hargrow

Hargrow reported TCCY received a letter on October 9, 2014 from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention regarding Tennessee’s compliance with the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act. Tennessee was found in “compliance” or “full compliance” with three of the four core requirements of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act. Tennessee was “not out of compliance” regarding the DMC core requirement. Many states throughout the nation received the same or a similar finding for the DMC core requirement. The letter stressed the necessity of using the DMC Reduction Model: Identification, Assessment/Diagnosis, Intervention, Evaluate and Monitor. OJJDP encouraged Tennessee to submit a Technical Assistance request to help Tennessee with implementing the full OJJDP DMC Reduction Model. Hargrow submitted the request October 21, 2014.

VI. Federal Formula Grant (FFG) Applications – Zanira Whitfield and Juvenile Justice Staff

Whitfield reported the Juvenile Justice division distributed the Federal Formula Grant Request for Proposals statewide in October. The proposals were due November 14, 2014. Sixteen applications were received. Taylor reported TCCY received three DMC applications, six Gender Specific, six System Improvement, and one late application. Whitfield gave details regarding the late application. Application packets were mailed to the Grant Review Committee (GRC) to read. GRC and JJ staff met December 11 to

discuss, score and make recommendations to the full Commission for approval/disapproval of the applications.

VII. Placement Alternatives to Detention – Audrey Taylor Gonzalez

Gonzalez distributed Shelby County Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiatives (JDAI) newsletters for review and discussed youth in Shelby County in the juvenile justice system. Gonzalez mentioned Shelby County is receiving JDAI assistance and is looking for alternatives to detention and more respite beds for children transported for domestic violence who only need a temporary place to cool off.

VIII. Other Business

A handout was distributed regarding the Reauthorization of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act. Hargrow asked the Juvenile Justice Committee to support the reauthorization.

IT WAS MOVED (DAVIS) AND SECONDED (HARLAN) TO SUPPORT THE REAUTHORIZATION OF THE JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION ACT. UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

Hargrow mentioned he and Whitfield presented on jail removal at the Sheriff's Association on December 4, 2014. They did not have much time for the full presentation, but several hypothetical questions were answered.

Petty mentioned possible upcoming legislation concerning lowering the age of majority to 16, issues about the sex offender registry and concerns of the Woodland Hills Youth Development Center issues.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 4:15 PM.

Minutes Prepared by:

Minutes Approved by:

Vicki Taylor, Juvenile Justice Specialist

Phil Acord, Chair